



USDA  
South Dakota  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service

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# South Dakota FARM COMPUTER USAGE

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News Release

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## *FARMS WITH INTERNET ACCESS UP FROM 2 YEARS AGO*

SIOUX FALLS, August 3, 1999 - - In a recent computer usage and ownership study conducted by the USDA's South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service, 29 percent of all South Dakota farms reported having Internet access. This is more than double the 13 percent reported two years ago when the study was last conducted. Having access to a computer and usage for farm business both increased from prior levels indicated in the 1997 study. Fifty percent of the farms in South Dakota now have access to a computer, up from 43 percent. Thirty-one percent of the farms use a computer for farm business, which is up from the previous study's 24 percent. Interested individuals will find the South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service's homepage on the Internet at:

[www.nass.usda.gov/sd/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/sd/)

South Dakota conducts a survey every June to provide estimates of crop acres planted, grain in storage, livestock inventories, and land values. This year, questions were added to the survey that asked the operator about Internet access and use of computers. These figures are based on responses that represent all sizes and types of farms.

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